(2) TIME-LIMIT FOR RECEIPT OF AMENDMENTS TO BILLS.

SRI D. S. AUTHIMOOLAM : ஆன் ஏ பாயிண்ட் ஆப் ஆர்டர், இந்த சட்ட சபைக் கூட்டத் தொடரிலே வரக்கூடிய முக்கியமான ஒரு மசோதா டிஸ்ட்ரிக்ட் டெவலப்மெண்ட் கவுன்சில் மசோதா என்று நினைக்கிறேன். அதற்கு இதுவரை 60 திருத்தங்களுக்கு மேலாக வந்திருக்கின்றன. அப்படி இருந்தும் இப்போது அதற்கு ஒரே நாள் தான் ஒதுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது என்பதை கனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்கள் மூலமாக சபையில் உள்ள அமைச்சர்களுடையவும், அங்கத்தினர்களுடையவும் கவனத்திற்குக்கொண்டு வருகிறேன். இதற்கு இன்னும் கூட ஒரு நாள் கொடுக்க வேண்டுமென்று தாழ்மையுடன் கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்.

MR. SPEAKER : இந்த சபையிலே சொன்னேன், பிஸினெஸ் அட்வைஸரி கமிட்டி கூடி இந்த மசோதாவிற்கு ஒரு நாள் போதும் என்று தீர்மானித்திருக்கிறது என்று. அப்போது அங்கத்தினர்களெல்லாம் அங்கீகாரம் செய்தார்கள். இப்போது போதாது என்று சொன்னால் நான் என்ன செய்வது?

(ஸ்ரீ டி. எஸ். ஆதிமூலம் எழுந்தார்.)

MR. SPEAKER : I am sorry, the hon. Member is not aware of what took place the other day.

Anyway, he cannot make a second speech now.

With reference to notice of amendments to the Bill I announced that the Bill would be circulated within an hour of the announcement, that amendments to the Bill would be received till 4 p.m. the same day and that the Bill would be taken up as the first item to-day. The House agreed to this. I also said that the Madras District Municipalities (Amendment) Bill and the Madras City Municipal (Amendment) Bill would be taken up to-morrow and that amendments to these two Bills would be received till 12 noon to-day. Evidently, hon. Members did not hear me properly. They are giving notice of amendments to the Madras District Development Councils Bill even now and so I have regretfully to say that I will not accept those amendments which were not given notice of before 4 p.m. on the day of my announcement. Of course, there are plenty of amendments already given notice of by Members and admitted and I am sure one or another of them will satisfy hon. Members. But there is nothing to prevent the Members from giving notice of amendments to the other two Bills to-day because they will be taken up only to-morrow.

SRI S. LAZAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir. On a point of order. The Bill was published in the Gazette on the third September when we were on our way to attend this meeting and it was circulated to the Members, if I remember aright, on the morning of the 5th. There was hardly time for us to go through the Bill, study the various provisions and give notice of amendments. Of course some Members appear to have got copies of the Bill through the office earlier and they have given notice of amendments. But most of us had barely any time to go through the Bill. This being a very important measure, I would request the hon. Speaker to kindly admit the amendments given by Members early this morning,

8th September 1958] [Sri S. Lazar]

This is only a request I make to the hon. Speaker because many of us were able to go through the Bill only yesterday and the day before yesterday.

MR. SPEAKER : The Bill was published in the Gazette Extraordinary on the 30th August 1958. Therefore the Bill was in the hands of hon. Members sufficiently early. The Business Advisory Committee had agreed to take up the Bill to-day. I would have no objection if the House had said that it would take up the Bill some other day. But the Business Advisory Committee having agreed to take it up to-day, I had no option but to fix a time limit for the receipt of amendments. If I allow the amendments given early this morning, when am I to circulate copies of them to the hon. Members? I am sorry I have to disagree with the hon. Member and refuse permission to accept the amendments given this morning. 9-50 a.m

III.—STATEMENT ON THE FOOD SITUATION IN THE MADRAS STATE.

MR. SPEAKER : The other point agreed to by the Committee was that the Hon. Home Minister will place a statement on the table of the House regarding the food situation. The statement is ready. But there is not sufficient time for him to take copies and distribute them to the hon. Members. The Hon. Minister will make the statement on Food now and copies of the statement will be distributed to the hon. Members as early as possible. The debate on the statement will take place on the 10th.

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : I shall make copies of the statement available either in the course of the day or by 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Mr. Speaker Sir, the State of Madras was slightly deficit in foodgrains at the time of the formation of Andhra in 1953. But subsequently due to a series of favourable seasons, we are now self-sufficient. The production of foodgrains during the last two years is as follows :—

Year. (1)	*Rice.* (2) (LAKHS TONS).	*Millets.* (3) (LAKHS TONS).	*Total.* (4) (LAKHS TONS).
1956–57	31·03	15·19	46·22
1957–58	31·34	15·24	46·58

The figures given for 1956–57 are the final estimates but for 1957–58. The final estimates are not yet available and so the preliminary forecast is given.

The Government is receiving regularly weekly reports about the condition of the standing crops. Generally speaking the South-west monsoon, although it was a bit delayed, has been satisfactory and the condition of the crops is on the whole fair, in most parts of the State. There are some exceptions to this statement, because, small areas like parts of Chingleput district and parts of South Arcot district experienced dry conditions and there was some